

[7th March, 2001]

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Governments to provide housing to people particularly those belonging to the EWS/LIG categories. The Central Government has been providing policy/guidelines and taking various initiatives to promote housing activity in both urban and rural areas. The National Housing and Habitat Policy-1998 has prescribed the role of the Central Government as that of a facilitator and enabler. Accordingly, the Central Government has taken various initiatives to accelerate the pace of housing in the urban areas. These include fiscal incentives under Income Tax and other concessions, advocating a legal regime conducive to vigorous housing and construction activity, transfer of appropriate and cost-effective technology through a network of building centres and by encouraging greater public-private partnership and cooperative housing.

Government has also launched the Two Million Housing programme facilitating the construction of 20 lakh dwelling units per year, predominantly for the EWS and LIG categories. Out of this, 7 lakh houses are to be in the urban areas. While HUDCO is entrusted with the task of facilitating construction of 4 lakh urban houses under this programme, the balance 3 lakh units will be achieved through National Housing Bank, Housing Finance Institutions, Cooperative sector and public-private partnerships. Government is taking all possible steps to ensure that the target of housing for all particularly the vulnerable sections of the society is largely met by 2015 AD in urban areas.

(d) No such proposal has been finalized in this Ministry.

Closure of polluting industrial units in Delhi

1126. SHRI NAGENDRA NATH OJHA: Will the MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) how many industrial units have been closed which are considered as polluting units in Delhi, so far;

(b) how many workers were affected and rendered unemployed;

(c) whether alternate sites have been allotted to these displaced industrialists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) The Government of NCT of Delhi has reported that a total of 18,972 units were visited by the enforcement teams constituted to close the polluting industries during December/January, 2000-2001. Out

of these 2,773 industrial units which were found to be covered under 27 'F' categories were sealed. In addition, 863 water polluting units had already been sealed in the course of earlier operations. The number of industries closed in the present case of enforcement action till 28.2.2001 is 681. The Government of NCT of Delhi has reported that the exact figures regarding number of workers affected are unavailable.

(c) and (d) 16,394 industrial units which had applied for plots and where found eligible under the Relocation Scheme of Government of Delhi, have been allotted industrial plots/flats. Out of these, 6,563 'F' category units have been given allotments on priority basis in industrial areas at Jhilmil Industrial Area, Patparganj, Badli, Narela and Bawana. The Government have also facilitated the allotment of land/industrial plots in National Capital Region to facilitate the workers and the entrepreneurs for work/employment in designated industrial estates.

Development assistance from Britain

1127. SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: Will the MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Britain has decided to triple its development assistance to India at 300 million pounds from the prevailing 100 million pounds for poverty alleviation; and

(b) if so, how Government plan to utilise the said fund?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA): (a) and (b) Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) has informed that "After the recent visit of Ms. Clare Short, UK Secretary of State for International Development, to India and her meeting with the Finance Minister on 16.1.2001, Department of Economic Affairs had received a letter from her to Finance Minister stating, inter-alia, that on the assumption that our partner States continue to make steady progress with their respective reform agendas, we plan at least to triple our direct assistance to India from around Rs. 700 crore annual disbursement now to more than 2000 crore rupees a year in threes years time'. However, Department of Economic Affairs have not received any formal decision of UK Government in the above context".